

**TOWN OF NEWBURGH
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES FEBRUARY 13, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Cox, Sherri Green, Lynda Browne, David Wills, Troy Wells, Steve Shoemaker

ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT: Ken Hughes, Sue Morrison, Jim Seibert

ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENT: Lori Buehlman, Town Manager; Chris Wischer, Attorney; Anne Rust Aurand, Town Council Liaison, substituting for Tonya McGuire

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Cox called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

MINUTES

Mr. Shoemaker moved to adopt the November 2013 minutes as presented.

Mr. Wells seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Town Council Liaison

Mrs. Aurand thanked Commission members for serving.

Staff

Mrs. Morrison said a bid package is being prepared for the old Greyhound station in Evansville, to be sent in April. The first work to be done is demolition of parts of the building that are not considered original. The Historic Landmarks regional office will be located in the structure once restoration is complete. Other office spaces will be leased.

Ms. Buehlman said Carol Schaeffer will be here to discuss the Preservation party slated for May 1. Mr. Cox said he and Mrs. Schaeffer have discussed having the party at the Lockmaster Cottages. The commission and HNI will cooperate, as usual, he said. HNI will let commission members know what to do.

When Mrs. Schaeffer arrived, she informed the commission that Tom and Cindy Nord have been asked to present their program on clothing and weapons of the War Between the States period. May 1 is the date for the party, and only one Lockmaster house will be open to the public. Commission members agreed to provide drinks for the event. HNI will provide snacks.

OLD BUSINESS

Education and Outreach

Mr. Cox said he and Mrs. Schaeffer have not connected about speakers for the Preservation party, nor has he had time to work on the Historic Properties Update.

NEW BUSINESS

Preservation Hall Sign COA Request

Staff report

Ms. Buehlman said her report contains the sign guidelines for appropriate materials, etc.

Randy Wheeler, president of the Newburgh Building Commission, also thanked the Commission members for their service.

He said Town Council members have offered guidance as to what HPC stipulations are for signage in the Historic District. The proposed sign would be 5.5 feet tall and will have legs 4 inches square. The proposal is attached: a two-sided sign, seen from north and south.

Town Council, Warrick Rotary, Newburgh Museum and Friends of Newburgh have contributed funds toward sign construction costs.

Mr. Wills asked what materials will be in the sign. Mr. Wheeler said the inner portion will be hard plastic, covered with another material that looks like stucco or wood. It is designed to be low maintenance.

Mrs. Aurand asked how the sign will indicate if the museum is open. Currently, yard signs are placed when it is open because operating hours and days vary.

Commission members suggested manipulating the handicapped accessible sign and hanging an "open" sign from the larger sign.

Mr. Wills moved to accept the request as presented. Mrs. Browne seconded the motion and it carried.

Election of 2014 Officers

Mr. Wills moved to retain the current officers: Jeff Cox as chair; Sherri Green as vice chair. Mr. Wells seconded the motion and it carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Shoemaker asked if there is anything new with the Country Store building. Mrs. Schaeffer said she has spoken with Nathan Kruger and there are no plans at this point. Bob Kruger wants to sell the building.

Ms. Buehlman said the dumpster at Jennings Station is temporary and is for construction inside.

Two commission members' terms have expired: Lynda Browne and Sherri Green. Mrs. Browne said she will serve another term. Mrs. Green said she will let Ms. Buehlman know her decision before the next Town Council meeting.

Ms. Buehlman also informed the commission that the Lockmaster houses are frequently rented (\$160 per night, sleeps eight); Preservation Hall is not rented as much (\$350 and \$200 deposit and proof of insurance). Some damage and wear is noticeable at Preservation Hall, she said. The Old Lock and Dam Building is rented nearly every weekend.

Mrs. Hughes and commission members discussed the new signs at the town limits. Mrs. Green said there needs to be a sign letting people know that the Rivertown Trail continues after the Old Lock and Dam Park.

Mr. Seibert updated the commission as to his plans for a new building behind the bank building. He said he is going to seek rezoning the property for R1.

Ms. Buehlman updated the commission on the status of the vacant lot between the condos and the Edgewater Grille. She said the town is waiting for the deed from the bank. The parcel has been donated to the town for green space. Mrs. Aurand said, with the property comes the responsibility for maintenance and landscaping. The landscaping is being discussed.

Mr. Shoemaker and Mr. Wheeler suggested railing is a necessity for the property. Mr. Wischer agreed it needs to be considered to reduce liability of the town.

Mrs. Aurand asked what is going on with the old massage facility on West Jennings. Mr. Wells said it is being renovated for a photography studio and another business. Aaron Jost is the new owner. Ms. Buehlman said the sign in front is temporary. Signs are allowed for contractors doing work on properties.

Mr. Wills asked about the vacant Wilhelmus home on West Jennings. Mrs. Hughes said the owner is a Louisville physician. His intent is to move here when his Louisville property sells. There is still interior work to be completed in the structure, she said.

ADJOURN

Mr. Shoemaker moved to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. Mr. Wells seconded and the motion carried.


Chair


Recorder